

Serial No. 10/506,480
Examiner Noakes
Group Art Unit 1656

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A streptavidin-binding peptide comprising or consisting of an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO: [[8]] 11, wherein X at position 3 is selected from the group consisting of glutamic acid, aspartic acid, ~~or~~ and glycine.
2. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid coding for a streptavidin-binding peptide according to claim 1.
3. (Withdrawn) A plasmid comprising a nucleic acid according to claim 2.
4. (Withdrawn) A method for the production of a streptavidin-binding peptide according to claim 1, wherein a nucleic acid according to claim 2 is expressed or overexpressed in a cell-based or cell-free protein biosynthesis system.
5. (Withdrawn) A method for the purification of a defined protein produced in a protein biosynthesis system, wherein a nucleic acid coding for the protein and, connected therewith, for the streptavidin-binding peptide of claim 1, controlled by a regulatory sequence, is subjected to a transcription or translation, wherein a solution comprising the thus obtained translation product is contacted with immobilized streptavidin, and wherein after separation of the solution with substances not bound to the streptavidin the translation product is released from the streptavidin and eluted.

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6. (Withdrawn) A method for labeling a defined protein, wherein a nucleic acid coding for the protein and, connected therewith, for the streptavidin-binding peptide according to claim 1 is subjected to a

transcription or translation, wherein the thus obtained translation product is contacted with a streptavidin conjugate comprising a reporter molecule and is bound thereto.